

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system of indexing and searching video, comprising:  
a video index generated through a logging mechanism that associates the  
5 video index with a location identifier of the video;  
a search engine operating on the index;  
a web server and application logic to perform searches against the index  
and deliver search results to browsers; and  
a template mechanism configured to inject the video into templates at a  
10 search site.

2. The system of Claim 1, further comprising a spidering module  
configured to automatically locate and index video content on a network.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein the video index is additionally  
15 generated by human annotation.

4. A method of video directory formation, comprising:  
capturing an aggregation of index data from existing sources having  
20 previously indexed videos; and  
capturing and indexing videos transmitted using a video distribution  
mechanism.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the video distribution  
25 mechanism includes satellite, cable, and airwaves.

6. A method of video directory formation, comprising:  
using a spidering process to gather and maintain video content located on  
a network; and  
30 capturing and indexing videos transmitted using a video distribution  
mechanism.

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the video distribution mechanism includes satellite, cable, and airwaves.

8. A method of video directory formation, comprising:  
5 using a spidering process to gather and maintain video content located on a network; and  
capturing an aggregation of index data from existing sources having previously indexed videos.

10 9. A system for sharing indexed video, comprising:  
a spider module configured to gather video content from a network; and  
a hosting service in data communication with the spider module, wherein the hosting service is configured to share searchable video for customized viewing at customer sites.

15 10. The system of Claim 9, further comprising at least one website configured to integrate the video shared by the hosting service into the website using at least one search and retrieval metaphor.

20 11. The system of Claim 10, wherein the website comprises a web portal.

12. The system of Claim 9, further comprising a search web page having a search form that includes one or more fields used to express a query.

25 13. The system of Claim 9, wherein the hosting service includes a logging facility configured to generate an index of the gathered video content.

30 14. The system of Claim 13, further comprising a browse web page having category links arranged in a subject hierarchy, with leaf nodes of the hierarchy performing pre-defined searches against the index.

15. A method of video spidering, comprising:

traversing a set of hyperlinked documents by following the hyperlinks  
from one page to the next so as to identify digital video;

generating a time-based index of the video; and

5 storing the index in a repository along with a hyperlinked location  
identifier associated with the video being indexed.

16. The method of Claim 15, further comprising identifying multiple  
versions of a video so that it is only indexed one time.

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17. The method of Claim 15, further comprising:

parsing out blocks of script associated with the video; and

executing the parsed blocks of script so as to identify one or more  
location identifiers corresponding to video segments.

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18. The method of Claim 15, further comprising grouping differently  
coded versions of the video together.

19. The method of Claim 15, further comprising searching for video  
content, wherein a corresponding location identifier of the video may be used to  
invoke a specific coded video player of a site containing the video.

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20. A method of video spidering, comprising:

traversing a network of linked content including at least one video;

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collecting location identifiers where the video resides on the network;

and

generating time-based metadata through access to the video via the  
collected video location identifiers.

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21. A method of video spidering, comprising:

spidering a network of linked content so as to locate at least one video;

indexing the located video into a video index; and

performing maintenance operations on the located video.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein the maintenance operations include using date information to either: (1) reindex a previously located video or (2) index a newly posted video.

23. The method of Claim 21, wherein the maintenance operations include identifying previously indexed video which is missing from the video index.

24. The method of Claim 21, wherein the maintenance operations include making integrity checks on the located video.

25. A method of video spidering, comprising:  
dynamically identifying at least one video on a network;  
accessing content corresponding to the identified video;  
parsing a script associated with the identified video; and  
launching the identified video for playback on a visual display according to the parsed script.